

2016 Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge White-tailed Deer Harvest Report

Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Saginaw, MI

The white-tailed deer hunt at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is designed to regulate harvest and distribute hunting pressure by allocating permits across 18 time periods (i.e., hunt choice codes). The current system is a quota based system in which the number of hunting days, method, and permit type (antlerless versus either sex) are set prior to the hunt. The 2016 lottery was managed and administered by the State of Michigan under the state wide hunting and fishing license system (Retail Sales System and Electronic Licensing System). From July 15th to August 15th hunters could apply for one reserved deer hunt in-person at any license agent across the State of Michigan, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Customer Service Center, or on-line through the DNR Electronic Licensing System. Hunters were randomly selected until the quota for each hunt was met. Any permits that were not purchased after the initial lottery were made available on a first-come first-served basis to the general public through the same licensing system.

In 2016, we received 994 applications for 596 permits and issued 363 permits through the lottery (Table 1, Figure 1). The remaining 233 permits were purchased as “leftover” permits. Hunters are required to report harvest via a post-season survey. Hunters reported harvesting 107 deer, which varied by gender 30% male (buck) and 70% female (doe; Table 2). Hunter success averaged 18%, which was below the 5-year average of 21% (Table 1). Hunter success varied by season: 11% early archery, 12% late archery, 14% muzzleloader, 17% youth, 28% limited firearm, 41% non-ambulatory (Tables 2 - 3).

Table 1. Permits available and issued, registered harvest, and success rate for all white-tailed deer (1982 – 2016) hunts at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, MI.

Year	Permits		Registered harvest	Success (%)
	Available	Issued		
1982	4000	3973	437	11
1983	2350	2375	285	12
1984	1650	1667	150	9
1985	898	857	60	7
1986	^a	^a	^a	^a
1987	659	600	3	0.5
1988	900	867	26	3
1989	705	725	116	16
1990	^b	^b	^b	^b
1991	455	455	182	40
1992	1280	1282	564	44
1993	715	527	127	24
1994	770	^b	229	^b
1995	925	^b	241	^b
1996	920	769	246	32
1997	910	799	220	28
1998	1010	829	227	27
1999	925	761	211	28
2000	957	765	227	30
2001	820	764	156	20
2002	861	784	172	22
2003	946	835	235	28
2004	1221	1083	329	30
2005	886	724	201	28
2006	886	774	256	33
2007	766	634	172	27
2008	901	714	240	34
2009	981	927	212	23
2010	1216	1058	220	21
2011	926	799	183	23
2012	806	659	113	17
2013	566	469	93	20
2014	661	661	149	23
2015	596	598	131	22
2016	596	584	107	18

^a White-tailed deer hunt was not held due to flooding.

^b Missing data.

Table 2. Hunt area, applicants, permits available and issued, registered harvest by age and gender, and success rate by hunt code for the 2016 white-tailed deer hunt at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, MI.

Hunt code ^a	Permits available	Applicants	Permits			Registered harvest ^b			
			Issued through lottery	Purchased as leftover	Total	Buck	Doe	Total	Success(%) ^c
201	10	4	4	3	7	0	0	0	0
202	5	45	5	0	5	2	0	2	40
203	10	83	10	0	10	0	0	0	0
204	75	20	20	55	75	0	3	3	4
205	25	283	25	0	25	12	1	13	52
206	75	11	11	64	75	0	5	5	7
207	9	3	3	1	4	0	3	3	75
208	9	29	9	0	9	2	2	4	44
209	9	4	4	1	5	0	1	1	20
210	9	11	9	0	9	3	0	3	33
211	5	69	5	0	5	1	0	1	20
212	80	62	62	18	80	0	30	30	38
213	5	46	5	0	5	0	0	0	0
214	80	62	62	18	80	0	17	17	21
215	10	143	10	0	10	1	1	2	20
216	50	37	37	13	50	0	5	5	10
217	80	73	73	7	80	0	12	12	15
218	50	9	9	41	50	0	6	6	12
Total	596	994	363	226	584	21	86	107	18

^a 201 = September 17 – 18, 202 = September 17 – 18, 203 = October 1 – 5, 204 = October 1 – October 5, 205 = October 30 – November 3, 206 = October 30 – November 3, 207 = November 15 – 16, 208 = November 15 – 16, 209 = November 17 – 18, 210 = November 17 – 18, 211 = November 20 – 24, 212 = November 20 – 24, 213 = November 26 – 30, 214 = November 26 – 30, 215 = December 4 – December 8, 216 = December 4 – December 8, 217 = December 11 – December 15, 218 = December 26 – January 1.

^b Hunter reported data subject to error.

^c Success was determined by the following formula: Success = (total harvest/(permits issued through lottery + leftovers))*100.

Table 3. Permits available and issued, registered harvest by gender and age, and success rates by hunting season for the 2016 white-tailed deer hunt at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, MI.

Hunt season ^a	Permits available	Permits				Registered harvest ^d			Success(%) ^e
		Applicants	Issued through lottery	Purchased as leftover	Total	Buck	Doe	Total	
Youth	15	49	9	8	12	2	0	2	17
Early archery ^b	185	397	66	119	185	12	9	21	11
Non-Ambulatory	36	47	25	2	27	5	6	11	41
Limited Firearm	170	239	134	36	170	1	47	48	28
Muzzleloader	140	253	120	20	140	1	18	19	14
Late archery ^c	50	9	9	41	50	0	6	6	12
Total	596	994	363	216	584	21	86	107	18

^a Hunt season refers to the combined hunt codes for the corresponding State Of Michigan hunting season (e.g., early archery information is hunt codes 203 - 206 combined).

^b Early archery refers to season held prior to the statewide firearm opener (November 15th).

^c Late archery refers to season held after the statewide firearm season closes (November 30th).

^d Hunter reported data is subject to error.

^e Success was determined by the following formula Success = (total harvest/(permits issued through lottery + leftovers)) * 100.

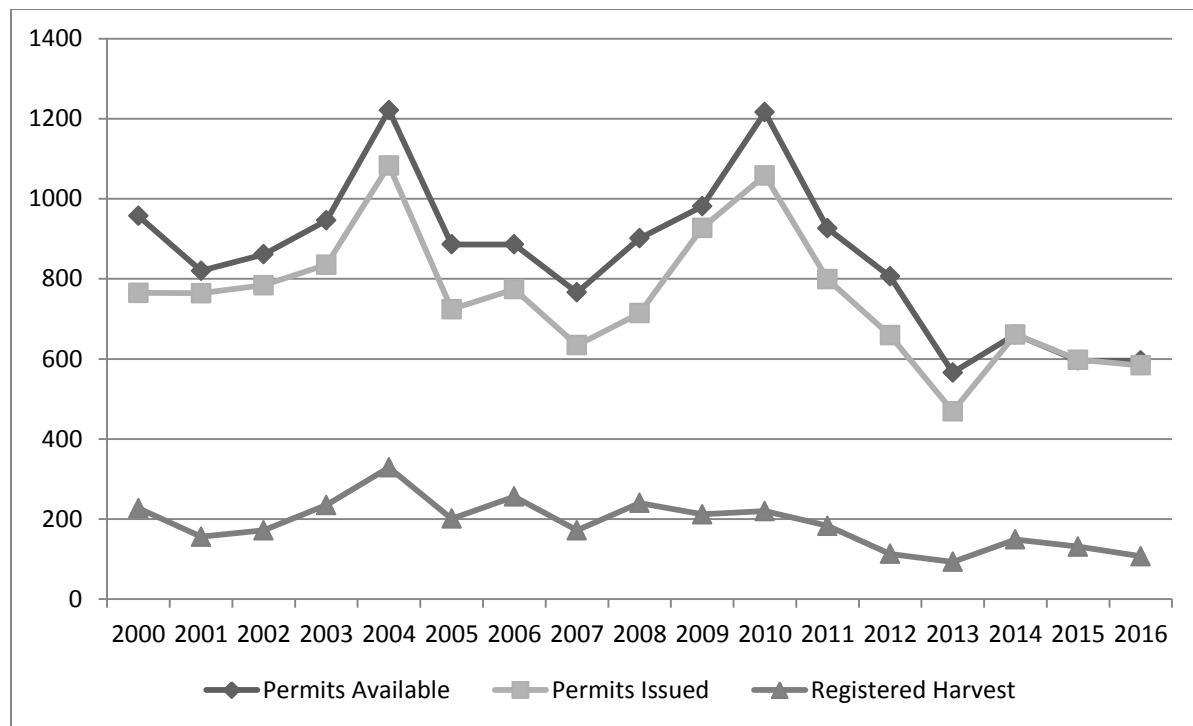


Figure 1. Permits available, permits issued, and registered harvest for the white-tailed deer hunts 2000 – 2016 at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, MI.